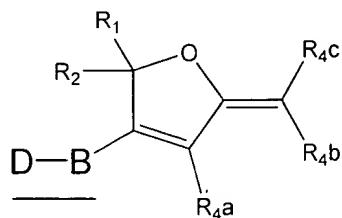


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A ~~compound, comprising a π -electron donor conjugated to a π -electron acceptor through a bridge, wherein the acceptor comprises a group~~ dihydrofuran-containing nonlinear optical chromophore having the structure:



wherein D is a π -electron donor group;

wherein B is a π -electron conjugated bridge group that provides electronic conjugation from the donor group to the dihydrofuran; and

wherein R₁ and R₂ are alkyl groups, R_{4a}, R_{4b}, and R_{4c} are independently selected from F, CN, CF₃, and CF₃SO₂, provided that R_{4a}, R_{4b}, and R_{4c} are not all CN.

32. (Currently amended) The compound chromophore of Claim 31, wherein R_{4a}, R_{4b}, and R_{4c} are independently selected from F, CF₃, and CF₃SO₂.

33. (Currently amended) The compound chromophore of Claim 31, wherein R_{4a} is CN, R_{4b} is CN, and R_{4c} is CF₃SO₂.

34. (Currently amended) The compound chromophore of Claim 31, wherein R_{4a} is CF₃SO₂, R_{4b} is CN, and R_{4c} is CF₃SO₂.

35-64. (Canceled)

65. (Currently amended) The compound chromophore of Claim 31, wherein R_{4a}, R_{4b}, and R_{4c} are independently selected from CN, CF₃, and CF₃SO₂.

LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100

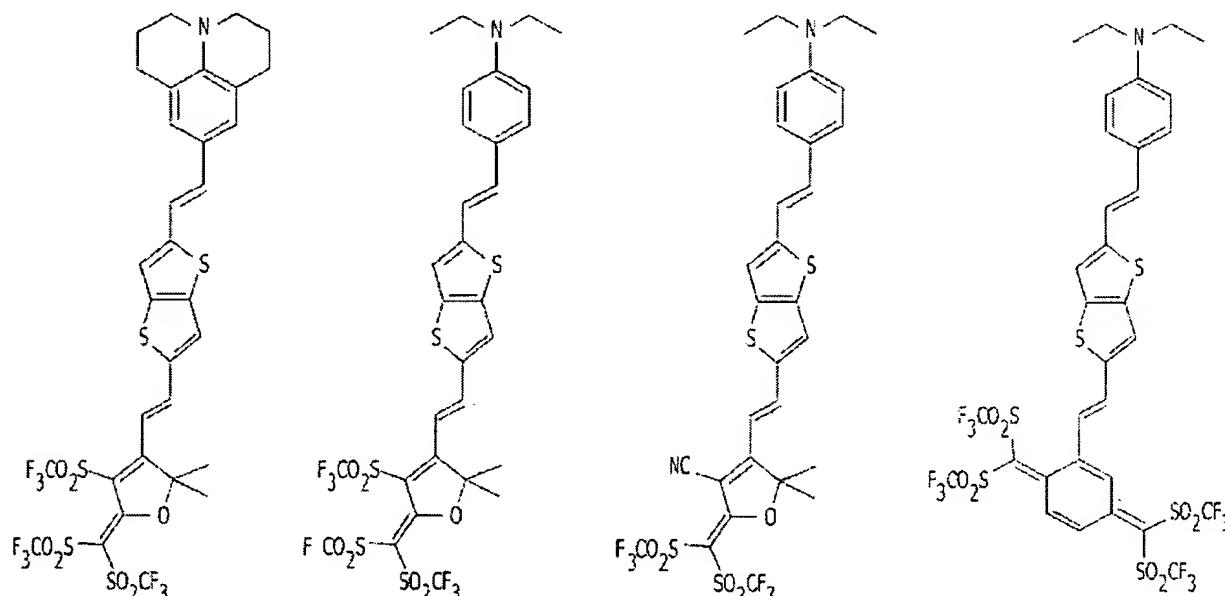
66. (Currently amended) The compound chromophore of Claim 31, wherein R_{4a} is F, R_{4b} is CN, and R_{4c} is F.

67. (Currently amended) The compound chromophore of Claim 31, wherein R_{4a} is CF₃, R_{4b} is CN, and R_{4c} is CF₃.

68. (Currently amended) The compound chromophore of Claim 31, wherein R_{4a} is CF₃SO₂, R_{4b} is CF₃SO₂, and R_{4c} is CF₃SO₂.

69. (Currently amended) The compound chromophore of Claim 31, wherein R_{4a} is CN, R_{4b} is CF₃SO₂, and R_{4c} is CF₃SO₂.

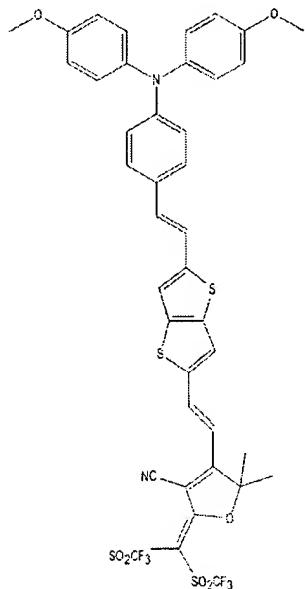
70. (Currently amended) ~~The compounds shown in FIGURE 24~~ A compound selected from the group consisting of



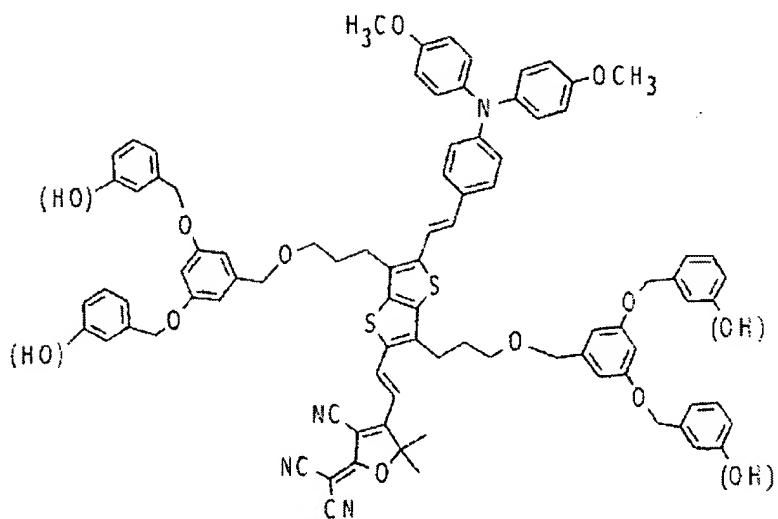
, and

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CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS PLLC
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100

71. (Currently amended) ~~The compound shown in FIGURE 26~~ A compound having the structure

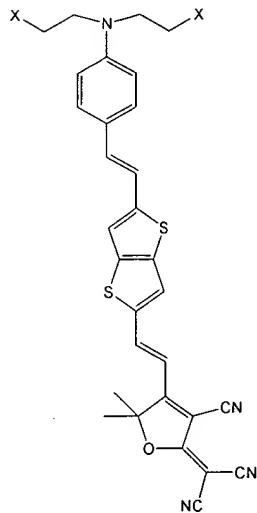


72. (Currently amended) ~~The compound shown in FIGURE 47~~ A compound having the structure



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1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100

73. (Previously presented) A compound having the structure:



wherein X is hydrogen or t-butyldimethylsiloxy.

74-82. (Canceled)

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CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100